



INFORMATIVE BULLETIN

SICE - Productive Innovation

Low Density and Other Territories

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PORTUGAL
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Intervention areas

This notice aims to stimulate business investment of an innovative nature, promoting a change in the specialization profile of the Portuguese economy and strengthening its external competitiveness, through differentiation, diversification and innovation.

Operations of an innovative nature that result in the production of tradable and internationalizable goods and services with high added value and a level of national incorporation, related to the following types of action, are eligible for support:



The creation of a new facility;



The increase in capacity of an existing facility;



The production diversification of an existing facility to products not previously produced in the facility;



The fundamental change in the overall production process of an existing facility.

Geographical area

Low-density territories in the mainland's NUTS II regions (North, Center, Alentejo and Algarve).

Maximum co-financing rate

PITD - 40%

PR North - 40%

PR Centro - 40%*

PR Alentejo - 40%*

PR Algarve - 40%

**In the case of operations located in the NUTS III Alto Alentejo and Beiras e Serra da Estrela sub-regions, this ceiling is 50% for medium-sized enterprises and 60% for micro and small enterprises.*

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Base rate

25% for medium-sized companies;
30% for micro and small companies.

**In the case of operations located in the NUTS III Alto Alentejo, Beiras and Serra da Estrela sub-regions, the base rates are 35% for medium-sized companies and 45% for micro and small companies.*

Increases

i) Sectoral and/or territorial policy priorities: 5% for compliance with each of the following priorities, up to a limit of 10%:

a) "Industry 4.0" -operations in the area of Industry 4.0, where digital transformation will enable disruptive changes in business models, products and production processes (according to the benchmark in Annex A.3);

b) "Climate Transition" - operations in areas that make a relevant contribution to the objectives of the Climate Transition (according to the reference in Annex A.3);

ii) Creation of qualified employment": awarded according to the number of qualified jobs created:

■ Between 1-3 qualified jobs: 2%

■ 4 or more jobs: 5%

**In the case of applications funded by the Alentejo Regional Program, an increase of 5% will be awarded when 2 or more qualified jobs are created.*

iii) SME capitalization: 5%. to be awarded to operations whose private component (total investment minus calculated incentive) is mainly financed by equity, namely share capital, incorporation of shareholder loans and supplementary capital contributions.

Minimum and maximum investment amounts

Operations eligible for support must have a **minimum total eligible expenditure of 300,000 euros**.

Eligible expenses

Within the scope of this Call for Proposals, the following costs are eligible, provided they are directly related to the development of the operation:

- a. Tangible assets, including the acquisition of machinery and equipment, costs directly attributable to placing them in the location and conditions necessary for their operation, as well as the acquisition of computer equipment, including the software necessary for its operation;
- b. Intangible assets, including the transfer of technology through the acquisition of national and international patent rights, licenses, technical knowledge not protected by patent, and standard software or software developed specifically for a given purpose;
- c. Other investment expenditure, including expenditure on the intervention of certified accountants or statutory auditors in validating expenditure on payment requests; engineering services; studies, diagnostics, audits; studies or reports in the context of aligning the operation with the "Do No Significant Harm" principle; marketing plans; architectural and engineering projects and services.

Specific rules or limits on the eligibility of expenditure

- 1.** Operations eligible for support must have a **minimum total eligible expenditure of 300,000 euros** and a total eligible expenditure, measured on the basis of the data submitted in the application, of less than 25 million euros.
- 2.** This Notice does not include the eligibility of investments with any costs incurred prior to the date of the application, including feasibility studies.
- 3.** The other investment costs referred to in point c) of the previous paragraph may not exceed 20% of the total eligible costs of the operation.
- 4.** The costs incurred by certified accountants or statutory auditors in validating the expenditure of payment requests, included in point c) of the previous paragraph, **may not exceed 5,000 euros**.
- 5.** The costs of carrying out studies or reports in the context of aligning the operation with the "Do No Significant Harm" Principle, in point c) of the previous point, may not exceed 15,000 euros.

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6. Costs for the construction of buildings, refurbishment works and other constructions may not exceed the following limits:

- For operations located in the NUTS II North, Center and Alentejo:

- a. 60% of the operation's total eligible expenditure, in the case of operations in the tourism sector;
- b. 35% of the operation's total eligible expenditure, in the case of operations in the industry sector.

- For operations located in the NUTS II Algarve:

- a. 70% of the operation's total eligible expenditure, in the case of operations in the industry and tourism sector;
- b. 90% of the operation's total eligible expenditure, in the case of operations in the industry sector which fall within the scope of Regional RIS 3 and which contribute to the development of innovative solutions based on R&D results and the integration and convergence of new technologies and knowledge.

Target audience

Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), of any nature and in any legal form, with organized accounting.

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